

***Business Area # 1:
East Cambridge/Galleria***

Boundaries: bordered by Somerville, the Charles River, and the B&A Railroad

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: The Galleria, Restaurants and retail shops on First Street, restaurants and retail shops on Cambridge Street between #1 and #700, industrial and retail establishments on Bent, Binney, Hurley, and Thorndike Streets.



Cambridgeside Galleria

Commercial robbery in this business area has been on a downward spiral since 1995. After the two commercial robberies that occurred in the first six months of last year, there was only one such incident recorded in the Galleria / East Cambridge Business area during the first six months of 2001. Earlier in the decade of the 1990s the East Cambridge area averaged over 20 robberies annually. Counting the single incident this year, there have been only eight commercial robberies in the past 48 months in this business district. • **Commercial burglary**, which had been on a continuous decline (-40%) up until last year, reversed the trend for the first six months of this year, increasing by a drastic amount (+83%). Businesses on Monsignor O'Brien Highway and stores in the Galleria Mall were the main targets, accounting for eight of the eleven reported thefts. One arrest was made after a suspect was observed attempting to gain entrance into a building currently under construction at 228 Monsignor O'Brien Highway. The suspect used a cement block to smash through a plywood window at the construction site. • The +15% increase in **larceny from buildings** in the District comes on the heels of a 31% increase for the same time period last year. Most of the larcenies were driven by the theft of cash (from deposits and/or wallets) in retail establishments at the Mall and the pilfering of laptops/computers from business offices on Rogers Street and Canal Park. • The majority of **larceny from persons** (24 of the 29 incidents) involved the theft of wallets/purses and cell phones in the Galleria Mall. • Con artists practicing the "Big Carrot" swindle continue to ply their trade at the Galleria, committing four **flim flams** during the months of February and April (two respectively). • The **Fraud / Flim Flam / Counterfeiting** group of crimes witnessed a slight decrease in numbers (-16%), with a total of nine arrests.

CRIME	2 nd Quarter 2000	2 nd Quarter 2001	%CHANGE
Larceny from Building	54	62	+15%
Larceny from Person	23	29	+26%
Commercial Burglary	6	11	+83%
Commercial Robbery	2	1	-50%
Shoplifting	76	103	+36%
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	50	42	-16%